I. *Part of a Letter from Mr* James Cuningham *to the Publiſher, from the Cape of* Good Hope, *Ap.* 6. 1700. *giving an account of his obſervations on the Thermometer and Magnetick Needle in his Voyage thither.*

I Have not time now to give you a particular account of the Thermometer, with the variation and inclination of the Needle, only in general, that the greateſt height the Spirit did ariſe to in the Thermometer, was two diviſions below extream hot, when we were near the Æquinoctial; and that two degrees to the Northward of the Line, the North point of the Needle did incline 8 degrees downward, but as we went to the Southward it was inclined above 48 degrees upward.

II. *Of an accident by Thunder and Lightning at* Leedes, *by Mr* Ralph Thoresby. *F. R. S.*

ON *Saturday* evening the 27th of *April*, we had a pretty ſevere ſtorm of Thunder and Lightning, one clap particularly was very loud, and ſeem'd to me to be very low and near us, and ſo it appeared to be by the effects, which, tho not fatal, yet ſomewhat remarkable; for falling upon a Cottage on the *Quarry Hill* (where one *Henry Parker* lives) it broke down part of the Chamber Chimney, and thence made its way through a chink or nick in the Floor to the lower Room, whereby the Flame thus contracted was either more intenſely hot, or at leaſt directed more immediately to a Shelf, where it melted ſeveral holes in two Pewter Diſhes; it melted alſo, and run into little Lumps, ſeveral places in a Pewter Candleſtick, and of a Braſs Mortar, yet burnt not ſome bits of Fringe, and other Combuſtible matters within it; it burnt alſo ſome holes in a Tinn Veſſel, and ſmutted a white Stone plate it ſtood upon, as if it had been with Lamp-black, and filled the Room with

with ſuch a bituminous ſmell like fired Gunpowder as almoſt ſtifled the poor woman, who was alone in the Houſe, but upon opening the door received no further damage. I went from thence, having bought the Candleſtick to preſerve as a Memorial of ſo uncommon an accident, to enquire of one in that Neighbourhood, concerning one more fatal, of which the Pariſh Regiſter has this Note. '2d of *Sept.* 1672. '*was buried* Thomas, *the Son of* James Lambert *Junior*, '*deceaſed, of* Holbeck, *ſlain the day before, being the Lords day, by a Thunderbolt.* There were other Children in company, who were alſo caſt down by the ſtorm, amongſt whom the party I ſpoke to, had a Brother and Siſter; he had a pair of new Stockings burnt off his legs, and himſelf was ſo ſcorched, that he never recovered his natural complexion, ſhe having a Waſte-coat claſped before (as the faſhion then was) was ſo burnt betwixt her Breaſts, that the ſcars thereof remain to this day; another had the ſtiffned neck of his doublet ſtruck off, but all recovered except *Lambert*'s Boy, who was found with his face upward, whereas all the reſt had theirs to the earth: which re-minds me of our Cole-miners practice, who, when any ſwoon away by their ſulphurous damps, dig a hole in the earth and lay 'em on their bellies, with their mouths in it, which (if it prove not an abſolute ſuffocation) recovers them. I cannot at this diſtance of time gain ſo particular an account as I could wiſh, what wounds or contuſions were upon the body of the ſaid *Tho Lambert*, but only in general, that his skin was perfectly burnt black, and was ſhrunk up hard like Parchment or Leather burnt with fire. I put off the longer giving you this account, in hopes Dr *P.* would have recovered the narrative he writ of it, immediately upon the accident, but not being able to retreive that, I ſend you it, the beſt I can procure from thoſe who were Eye-witneſſes.

Leeder, Jun. 29. 1700. III.